

Farm Credit Administration

§ 602.8

(4) Consult with two or more FCA offices having a substantial interest in the request.

(c) *Referrals.* If you ask for records we have that another Federal agency originated, we will refer the request to the originating agency and tell you about the referral. If you should have sent your request to another Federal agency, we will refer the request to that agency and so advise you.

§ 602.6 FOIA exemptions.

The FOIA allows agencies to withhold documents in certain categories. For instance, we do not have to give you documents that relate to our examination of institutions or that would violate the personal privacy of an individual. If we do not give you a document because the FOIA does not require us to, we will tell you which FOIA exemption applies to our decision.

§ 602.7 Confidential business information.

(a) *FCA disclosure.* FCA may disclose business information from a business submitter only under this section. This section will not apply if:

(1) We decide the business submitter has no valid basis to object to disclosure;

(2) The information has been published lawfully or made available to the public; or

(3) Law (other than the FOIA) requires disclosure of the information.

(b) *Notice by FCA.* When we receive a request for confidential business information, the FOIA Officer will promptly tell the requester and the business submitter in writing that the responsive records may be free from disclosure under the FOIA. We will give the business submitter a reasonable time to object to the proposed disclosure of the responsive records and tell the requester whenever:

(1) The business submitter has in good faith labeled the information a trade secret or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential. We will provide such notice for 10 years after receiving the information unless the business submitter justifies the need for a longer period; or

(2) We believe that disclosing the information may result in commercial or financial injury to the business submitter.

(c) *Objection to release.* A business submitter who objects to our releasing the requested information should tell us in writing why the information is a trade secret or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential.

(d) *FCA response.* (1) We will consider carefully a business submitter's objections. If we decide to disclose business information over the submitter's objection, the FOIA Officer will explain to the submitter in writing why we disagreed with the submitter's objection and describe the business information to be disclosed.

(2) We will tell the requester and the submitter the proposed disclosure date at the same time.

(3) If a submitter sues to prevent release, we will promptly tell the requester and will not disclose the business information until after the court's decision.

(4) If a requester sues to compel disclosure, we will promptly tell the business submitter.

§ 602.8 Appeals.

(a) *How to appeal.* You may appeal a total or partial denial of your FOIA request within 30 calendar days of the date of the denial letter. Your appeal must be in writing and addressed to the Director, Office of Management Services (OMS), Farm Credit Administration. You may send it:

(1) By mail to 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-5090;

(2) By facsimile to (703) 893-2608; or

(3) By E-mail to foiaappeal@fca.gov.

(b) *FCA action on appeal.* Within 20 business days of receiving your appeal, the OMS Director will tell you, in writing, whether we have granted or denied it. If you send your appeal to the wrong address, the 20-day response time will not begin until the OMS Director receives your appeal.

(c) *Unusual circumstances.* In unusual circumstances, the OMS Director may extend the 20-day response time by telling you in writing why we need more time and the date we will mail